



## Match Report

March 28

Away

Sawston

Lost 7:10



### Team

#### *Starting Line-up*

- 1) Stuart 'Booey' Crecknell
- 2) Dan Jerred
- 3) Carl Hulyer
- 4) Andy Caruana
- 5) Dan 'Ginger Dan' Leith
- 6) Josh Ghoorahoo
- 7) Richard 'BTW' Fickling
- 8) Tom 'Fat Tom' Powell
- 9) Harry Cowley
- 10) Steve Marsh
- 11) Jake Sweet
- 12) Tom Heathcote
- 13) Reggi Campbell
- 14) Dave Parkes
- 15) Tom Cowley

#### *Replacements*

- 16) Tom 'Old Tom' Wykes
- 17) Dan Stockbridge
- 18) Doug Smith
- 19) Dave Steward
- 20) Rick Cleland

### Report

We were back to Sawston after a short break since the last game there: the semi-final of the County Cup was the occasion. The wind whistled around the ground and Renegades was blessed with a wealth of playing talent including many faces not seen for some time as well as some new recruits. The mood was upbeat in the crowded dressing room, and the news that no showers would be available after the game was brushed off as trivial. We even did some warming-up before the game.

After kickoff, things felt a bit like a repeat of the start of the last game against Sawston, with the boys in blue making all the running. After 10 minutes, Renegades hadn't ventured into the Sawston half and the pressure told with Sawston scoring a try after 12 minutes. The conversion was wild and the score remained at 0-5.

The Sawston scrum was dominant and their lineout was very effective, stealing quite a few Renegades throw-ins. Sawston kept the pressure up and generated a couple of kickable penalties which were missed. Renegades didn't make much headway apart from a small number of promising breaks which were stymied by handling errors, to the frustration of Reggi who would surely have

scored on at least a couple of occasions had things gone right. At half time the score remained at 0-5.

Things were bound to improve in the second half with the wind and slight slope behind Renegades. However, Sawston opened the second half with a convincing assault on the Renegades line which looked very dangerous. Fortunately, the defence was effective and they were driven back.

Renegades began to turn the tide and move into the Sawston half. The pressure paid off and Reggi got the ball and powered past five defenders to touch down to the right of the posts. Steve M struck the conversion beautifully and the ball soared between the uprights (7-5). At last the logjam was broken and Renegades would begin to rack up points.

The following periods of play were dominated by handling errors with both teams failing to make significant inroads. Then the tide seemed to turn Sawston's way again with serious incursions into the Renegades 22. Eventually they scored again on the right wing. The conversion, which was a very difficult kick given the angle and wind direction never came close (7-10).

This was a wake-up call to Renegades who upped the pressure and took the game back into the Sawston half. However, handling errors and Sawston's ability to gather the loose ball kept pushing Renegades back. The final minutes saw a series of scrums and penalties in the Sawston 22 but to no avail. Sawston held out and Renegades were out of the County Cup.

It was a closely fought game played in a very good spirit. In the end Sawston deserved to win – they played better as a team.

### Scores

Tries: Reggi Campbell

Conversions: Steve Marsh



Reggi for scoring try and great work rate, Tom Heathcote also for some serious tackles and Bev for persuading the referee to award a free kick to Renegades for feeding in the scrum.



Bev for being cautioned by the referee despite being on the sideline



*Match report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy*

*Photo and twitter feed Chris 'Flora' Beddow.*